

Leon Freeman

From: David McNeill [david.mcneill@bhc.ca.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 1:12 PM
To: DRP General Plan Project; Connie Chung
Subject: 2035 General Plan Update - Baldwin Hills Conservancy Comments
Attachments: 2035GenPlanComment.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To Whom It May Concern,

Attached please find the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's comment letter pursuant to the series of public hearings being held by the L.A. Regional County Planning Commission.

Sincerely,

David McNeill
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April 17, 2014

County of Los Angeles
Department of Regional Planning
General Plan Development Section
320 West Temple Street, Room 1356
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Attention: Connie Chung, Supervising Regional Planner

Re: Los Angeles County General Plan 2035 (Revised Draft)

Dear Ms. Chung:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Revised Draft of Los Angeles County General Plan 2035. The Baldwin Hills Conservancy is a state agency with a mission to provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat within the Baldwin Hills territory for the public's enjoyment and educational experience. Through collaborative planning, our agency has implemented regional projects that demonstrate the capacity for best management practices to help address county-wide ecological issues in heavily urbanized areas. The Conservancy's multi-benefit recreation projects featuring storm-water management designs are enjoyed daily by residents, while new trails and urban tree canopy projects are helping to reduce green house gas emissions and improve air quality.

Moving forward, the Conservancy's role in preserving natural open space for species biodiversity in close proximity to a growing population is directly linked to the strategic goals of the updated 2035 General Plan. Please see our comments with reference to the following elements: Planning Area Framework, Air Quality, Conservation and Natural Resource, Parks and Recreation, and the Public Services and Facilities.

Chapter 5: Planning Areas Framework

11. Westside Planning Area Issues . Page 59

There is mention of the local geography that includes Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area; however the planning area issues of the park are not discussed. Please revise to include the following:

Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area is surrounded by public and private open space, businesses, utilities as well as residential housing, creating the potential for conflict between habitat protection and development. Maintaining open space recreational areas, protecting environmentally-sensitive lands, expanding public access to parkland and the Ballona Creek, and protecting residents from natural hazards are priorities in the Westside Planning Area.

Chapter 8: Air Quality

Goal AQ 3: Implementation of plans and programs to address the impacts of climate change - Page 117

Climate change adaptation policy for unincorporated areas should include:

AQ 3.7 Encourage native plant use in parks and residential area as well as use of plants as food sources

AQ 3.8 Increasing wildlife habitat through the strategic use of native vegetation

Chapter 9: Conservation and Natural Resources Element

Goal C/NR 1: Open space areas that meet the diverse needs of Los Angeles County . Page 122

Revise C/NR 2.3 %improve understanding and appreciation for natural areas through preservation programs, stewardship and educational facilities.%o

Chapter 10: Parks and Recreation Element

Goal P/R 6: A sustainable parks and recreation system . Page 179

Sustainable Park System for unincorporated areas should include:

P/R 6.6 Encourage the use of multi-benefit water quality park improvements in recreational facilities

Chapter 13: Public Services and Facilities

Goal PS/F 6: A County with adequate public utilities - Page 221

Utility Infrastructure for unincorporated County should include:

PS/F 6.9 Encourage safety assessment and upgrades of utility power poles in unincorporated areas designated as fire hazard severity zones

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require clarification on any of the above recommendations.

Sincerely,



David McNeill
Executive Officer